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New Kuwaiti cabinet formed

KUWAIT, Feb. 16 (R). — Sheikh Sa'ad Al Abdullah Al Sabah, the heir apparent and Prime Minister today formed a new 19-man Kuwaiti government in which the most notable change was the replacement of Oil Minister Abdel Muttaleb Al Kazimi by Finance Minister Under Secretary, Sheikh Ali Khalifah. Another important change was the promotion of Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmed Al Sabah to Deputy Premier in addition to his post. Officials said the new cabinet would be sworn in by the emir on Saturday.

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Dayan protests to Vance on U.S. deal for planes to Arabs

WASHINGTON, Feb. 16 (Agencies). — Israeli Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan began talks today with Secretary of State Cyrus Vance on the future of Middle East peace negotiations and disputes clouding U.S.-Israeli relations. Later Mr. Dayan was seeing President Carter for what the White House described as a courtesy call.

Protest

Mr. Dayan, in a tightly planned one-day visit, is registering his country's protest over proposed U.S. warplane sales to Egypt and Saudi Arabia. Israel hopes its friends in Congress will block the arms sales. The administration, having proposed for the first time to sell jets to Egypt and to equip Saudi Arabia with 60 of the advanced F16 fighters, now appears eager to paper over Israeli vexation over Carter's decision. But even if administration minds are made up, Dayan is still conveying his government's concern that the sale of 50 F-5s to Egypt and 15 F-15s to Saudi Arabia would pose a peril to Israel's security and threaten to tip the Mideast arms balance in the Arabs' favour.

Prime Minister Menachem Begin told the Israeli parliament on Wednesday that there was "a crisis" in U.S. relations, but he reaffirmed his support for a peace settlement.

After talks with Mr. Vance, Mr. Dayan said the sale of the planes was "of much concern" but this did not mean Israeli reluctance to continue the peace process or to retain the United States as mediator. He declined to say whether any progress had been made on differences with Washington over Israeli settlements policy on occupied Arab lands or the Palestinian question. "I think that what we discussed today should be really kept indoors," he said. Mr. Vance said they had reviewed a number of matters related to negotiations, among them questions that will come up when Assistant Secretary of State Alfred Atherton flies to

Jerusalem this weekend to begin a shuttle between Israel and Egypt.

"We have reaffirmed our commitment to the peace process and the need to move forward," Mr. Vance said.

Saudi confidence essential

The state department said today denial of the F-15's to Saudi Arabia "would undermine Saudi confidence in our reliability as a major power." This confidence was essential to foster the oil state's backing for a negotiated Middle East peace settlement, the Department said. A detailed memorandum to the House of Representatives International Relations Committee said Saudi Arabia was fully aware of its obligations not to transfer U.S. military equipment to other countries without U.S. permission.

Egypt impounds Kenyan planes

CAIRO, Feb. 16 (Agencies). — Egyptian authorities impounded two Kenyan airlines today in retaliation for Kenya's forcing down an Egyptian jet that reportedly carried 19 tons of ammunition bound for Somalia, the Middle East News Agency said.

The Egyptian plane, a Boeing 707, was intercepted over Kenyan airspace Wednesday and forced to land at Nairobi airport. The captain told reporters in Nairobi he was not aware of the nature of the cargo and had inadvertently drifted into Kenyan airspace.

Both planes confiscated by the Egyptian government were Boeing 707 jetliners, airport officials said. One was bound for London from Nairobi and the second was headed from London to the Kenyan capital. Kenyan embassy officials in Cairo said Ambassador Rafael

Kilo met with Egyptian Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, Butros Butros Ghali, in an effort to win release of the confiscated aircraft. The ambassador was summoned to the Egyptian Foreign Ministry Wednesday night to explain why the Egyptian plane was seized. Egypt has said it is trying to mediate an end to the war between Somalia and Ethiopia although it has backed Somalia in the fighting.

Kenya borders on both eastern African nations and has supported Ethiopia in the war. In London, a Kenya Airways spokesman said there were 130 passengers in the two planes. He said they had been released and were being allocated seats on other flights out of Cairo to their destinations.

The sources said Egypt would release one of the Kenyan aircraft when Kenya freed the Egyptian plane. Then the second Kenyan airliner would be allowed to leave when the Egyptian plane reached Cairo, the sources added. The Kenyan authorities confiscated the arms cargo and arrested the Egyptian crew of seven.

Egypt has not officially admitted its plane was carrying weapons and the semi-official Cairo newspaper Al Ahram reported today that it was transporting merchandise to fulfil did contracts with Somalia.

An Egyptian Foreign Ministry official, in the only comment from government quarters today, said efforts were being made in Cairo and Nairobi "to contain the incident and reach a friendly settlement."

In Nairobi, a Kenyan Foreign Ministry spokesman said relations with Egypt following the incident.

Meanwhile a senior member of Ethiopia's Marxist military government left East Berlin today after four-day talks thought to have covered communist backing for his country's fight with Somalia in the Horn of Africa.

The official ADN news agency said Lieutenant Gesesse Wolde Kidan arrived on Monday, and held several meetings with Communist Party leaders here to discuss what it called the two nations increasingly close relations.

Science, technology conference aims to wed productive potential to national development goals

(Editor's note: After nearly half a year of advance preparations, Jordan's national science and technology conference opens here tomorrow with no less an aim than to map out the most logical route for Jordan's travel in using science and technology to serve our national goals of social and economic development. Amman Tutunji has been interviewing key people behind the conference, and he analyses the aims of the setting, as well as the complexities of the science and technology potential of Jordan, in a two-part series starting below. Part two will appear in tomorrow's Jordan Times.)

By Jenab Tutunji
social to the Jordan Times

A high-powered group of about 70 development experts, scientists representing 25 countries and 12 international organisations will assemble tomorrow, along with about 400 Jordanians, for the opening of the Conference on Science and Technology Policy Jordan. It will not be the first such thing in the Middle East, but may well be one of the most impressive. "No Arab country had a science and technology conference on this scale," says Dr. Fakhrudine Daghestani, head of the steering committee that has been preparing gently for this conference, the guidance and encouragement of Crown Prince Hassan since August 1977. But what is the conference about?

Its primary purpose should be to serve as a launching pad for the formation of an overall science and technology policy for the Kingdom. This is something Jordan has never had but, in the case of any other developing country, it is something for which there is a pressing need.

The convening of the conference here should not be mistaken for an indication that Jordan is trying to join some club of contributors to science, or that it is going to be joining the ranks of the high-technology developments. The facts of the matter are otherwise.

It is estimated that 86 per cent of total scientists and engineers in the world are concentrated in a zone inhabited by 30 per cent of the world population, and that 94 per cent of those engaged in research and development are within this zone. This zone includes North America, Western and Eastern Europe and Japan, a publication of the Royal Scientific Society, authored by Dr. Daghestani, states.

The aim of the conference, which will convene here Feb. 18-22, will be to draft or suggest guidelines for the formulation of a comprehensive policy for this country to husband its potential for science and technology-related activities. Such a policy should marshal these activities in the service of Jordan's development objectives, outline a set of priorities for scientific and technological research and recommend the establishment of institutions that will provide guidance and financial incentives for research.

Such a policy should also involve a legal framework that will be amical to a symbiotic relationship between science and technology on the one hand, and developmental goals on the other. It will attempt to introduce selectivity and rationality to the choice, adaptation and transfer of technology, from the developed countries which have the know-how to Jordan.

Last but not least, such a policy should be worked out within the context of regional and international cooperation in tailoring scientific know-how to the needs of Jordan in particular, with scope for application to the situation of its neighbours. These topics

will be handled in five national papers that will be delivered at the conference.

In a country as developed as the United States, for instance, such a comprehensive policy for science and technology would be out of place, and such a conference superfluous. The difference is that for the United States there are persuasive reasons to pursue almost any avenue of scientific research. Furthermore, the technology at the disposal of advanced industrial nations such as the U.S., West Germany, and Britain suits the need and conditions of those countries, unless one subscribes to the philosophy of the new left -- but that is a different kettle of fish. That is not to say there is no room for the United States, for instance, to adopt a science policy; the space programme launched by President Kennedy is a case in point.

However, a comprehensive and integrated policy for scientific and technological activities is needless, if not impossible, in a country such as the United States.

Priorities

One thing that is quite clear to those responsible for the conduct of research in science and technology in Jordan at this point is the need to tie in the areas of scientific investigation with the social and economic developmental objectives of the country.

"When we did the priorities determination study" (a study on science and technology priorities for the development of Jordan -- for which the National Planning Council is largely responsible, in conjunction with the Royal Scientific Society) "we tried to place the science and technology effort within the objectives of the five-year development plan," Dr. Albert Butros, Director General of the RSS, told the Jordan Times.

"We feel, however, that as we develop a policy for science and technology this will have an impact on future development planning," he added.

The main economic objectives of the current five year plan are:

- raising the share of the commodity-producing sectors in GDP from 35 per cent in 1975 to 44 per cent in 1980, with emphasis on mining, industry, irrigation and agriculture;
- an average annual real growth rate of 12 per cent of GDP;
- reducing the trade deficit and increasing the reliance of the government budget on domestic revenues in covering expenditures.

"There is a palpable need to further research in directly productive (material-producing) sectors such as agriculture and industry," Dr. Bassam Saket, Director of the Economics Research Department at the RSS, told me. "Thirty-three per cent of Jordan's imports are food products, and 60 per cent of our food needs are imported," he added.

There is very little being done by local industry to update techniques, boost efficiency or adapt technology to suit its own needs.

"The total effort in Jordan it seems to me, should be towards the more applied sort of research," Dr. Butros says.

Just what sort of applied research is spelled out in detail in the priorities determination study. Relying on a UNESCO procedure for its methodology, and with technical advice from UNESCO, the study involves consulting both the "producers" and the "users" of science and technology, i.e., experts in a particular discipline both at the laboratory or classroom end (e.g. agronomists) and "those responsible for the design and implementation of development programmes" in the same field (dry farming). The opinion of these two groups of experts is solicited to arrive at a "relevance assessment" of the particular discipline for development objectives in Jordan.

These "individual relevance assessments" are then used to construct two "global indicators":

- the overall relevance of a particular discipline to the en-

tire array of development objectives and

- the overall dependence of a particular development objective on the entire spectrum of scientific and technological disciplines.

"The two indicators are then used for selecting special areas of development in which to apply science and technology," i.e., to outline a "profile of science and technology priorities," the study says. The detailed conclusions and recommendations will be read at the conference, and one must frankly admire the scope and detail of the research that went into the study, and the short time in which it was executed. What the study was unable to do, it lists among recommendations for follow-up. Since the problem facing developing countries is not merely the adaptation of technology, but the choice of appropriate technologies from the fairly wide spectrum available, the study suggests a fairly intensive "international market research" effort to draw up guidelines for an intelligent choice of technologies appropriate to Jordan's situation.

It further suggests that this research effort should weigh the merits of the various technologies available for import against the prospects for "original technology development" or the areas in which it would be most beneficial for the creation of indigenous Jordanian technologies.

Jordan's potential

One of the national papers that will be presented at the conference, a "Survey of Scientific and Technological Potential for Jordan in 1976", is the work of the RSS. This survey, produced by the Economics Research Department of the society estimates that Jordan has 14,000 college and university graduates in sciences, humanities and engineering, and about 20,000 technicians (with a two-year post-secondary education) according to 1975 statistics.

(Continued on page 2)

Smith, moderate blacks reach agreement on security forces

LISBURY, Feb. 16 (R). — Black and white Rhodesians reached accord today on how to deal with the question of security forces in a bi-racial Zimbabwe, informed sources said.

Today's agreement was a good follow-up to yesterday's cess in dealing with constitutional aspects of a Rhodesian settlement.

The latest stride forward only the composition of a national multi-racial administration to be decided before agreement in principle on all matters can be signed and an interim administration set up to prepare the country for bi-racial rule.

Nationalist sources close to the conference said the white government and black parties agreed had drawn up a broad line of principle to deal with security forces.

They had agreed that nationalist guerrillas who wanted to continue a military career should be incorporated into the semi-white-led Rhodesian security forces to form a national army of Zimbabwe, the sources said.

Those guerrillas who want to return to civilian life or black majority rule had been promised would be rehabilitated.

Details of the plan would be sent to the interim administration, the sources added. It was understood the question of how many guerrillas should be incorporated into the security forces had not been discussed.

Two-and-a-half hours of talks today involved the government, the United African National Council (UANC) of Bishop Abel Muzorewa, the African National Council (ANC) of the Rev. Ndabaningi Sithole and the Zimbabwe United Peoples Organisation (ZUPU) of Chief Jeremiah Chirau.

After settling the security forces issue to their satisfaction the delegates turned their attention to the interim government, the sources said.

The nationalists had proposed that the interim administration should run the country during preparations for one-man, one-vote elections, with the present white-dominated parliament going into recess. The sources said Mr. Smith's team either agreed or disagreed with this, but asked for time to consider.

Foreign Secretary David Owen, who is under increasing political pressure at home to accept the agreement, said the settlement should depend on the results of fair and free elections in Rhodesia.

"It is the people who will live in a future Zimbabwe who should determine their own future," he said.

Britain's Labour government has been placed in a dilemma by Mr. Smith's agreement in principle with the moderate black leaders.

The U.S. State Department responded coolly yesterday to the reported agreement in black-white settlement talks in Rhodesia, saying it does not meet the requirements for a lasting solution.

Department press officer Kenneth Brown reaffirmed the long standing U.S. view that a permanent settlement must include participation by the Patriotic Front, which is waging guerrilla warfare along Rhodesia's borders.

Mr. Brown however refused to rule out the possibility that some elements of the plan might be acceptable to the United States.

Zambia said today that the internal Rhodesian settlement is "irrelevant and lacking in substance."

And Joshua Nkomo, co-leader of the National Front, said his guerrilla war along Rhodesia's borders will go on.

A spokesman for the Zambian Foreign Ministry said: "Zambia supports the Patriotic Front and has always supported the front and the Anglo-American proposals for a genuine and permanent independence settlement in Rhodesia."

"The internal settlement will never work. The war continues," Mr. Nkomo told reporters.

"This is nonsense. The black leaders involved in the internal settlement have now joined Smith and we now know who the enemies are. The job is now much easier to handle. The whole bunch is now in one basket."

South African Prime Minister John Vorster yesterday welcomed the Rhodesian agreement on parliamentary representation and said all efforts to achieve peace in southern Africa would have South Africa's support.

Egypt still abides by PLO, but will accept Palestinian "formula"

ABU DHABI, Feb. 16 (R). — Egypt still recognises the Palestine Liberation Organisation as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinians but is ready to accept a formula on a Palestinian entity that will alleviate Israeli and American fears, a senior Egyptian official said in an interview published here today.

Foreign Ministry General Secretary Osama Baz also told the semi-official Abu Dhabi newspaper Al Itihad that there were no concrete attempts to reconcile Egypt and the Arab opponents of its peace initiative, including the PLO.

Egypt is still committed to the resolutions of the 1974 Arab summit conference in Rabat, that recognised the PLO

as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, he said.

In pursuance of this recognition Egypt invited the PLO to take part in the Cairo peace conference in December, Dr. Baz said.

The PLO, along with Syria and the Soviet Union, rejected the invitation. The conference was attended by Egypt, Israel, the United States and the United Nations.

Had PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat attended the Cairo conference, Israel, which refuses to recognise the PLO, would have faced a very embarrassing situation, Dr. Baz said.

Egypt's proposal to link any Palestinian entity established on the occupied West Bank of

the River Jordan and Gaza Strip does not restrict the right of self-determination for the Palestinians, he said.

The proposal is a formula to facilitate the recognition by Israel and the world public opinion of a Palestinian entity he said.

Public opinion in Israel, the U.S. and other parts of the world believes that any Palestinian state will be a source of instability in the Middle East, the Egyptian official said.

Egypt disagrees with this view but it has to deal with it as a part of the international situation he added.

The role of Jordan, as seen by Egypt, is to facilitate the creation of conditions that would make possible an Israeli withdrawal, he said.

More Cuban troops expected in Ethiopia

NAIROBI, Feb. 16 (R). — An additional 1,500 Cuban troops will arrive in Ethiopia by the end of February and the total number helping Ethiopia's war effort against Somalia could eventually rise to 8,000, according to diplomatic sources in Addis Ababa.

The sources, speaking in the Ethiopian capital in the past few days, said the additional troops were expected to land by ship at Aden soon before being flown to Ethiopia.

An estimated 3,500 Cuban soldiers, advisers and pilots are currently aiding Ethiopian troops in the push against Somali forces in the Ogaden desert region.

Many of Ethiopia's civilian airliners have been on standby to pick up the Cubans for more than a week and many scheduled international flights from Addis Ababa have been cancelled.

The Addis Ababa sources said the second phase of Ethiopia's counter offensive against Somali forces could be delayed until the fresh Cuban troops are in position.

Ethiopia has conceded the presence of Cuban and Soviet advisers, but emphatically denies that they are taking a combat role.

The sources said the Cubans were fighting with newly deli-

vered Soviet equipment and Cuban pilots were flying Soviet MiG-17 fighters.

Ethiopia's field commanders told a group of visiting journalists in Harar earlier this week that the government front line had been pushed east of Harar to a point 30 kms. from the Somali-held town of Jijiga at the foot of the mountains.

To the north and south the government lines were some 40 kms. from the walls of the old and now shell-damaged city, according to the Ethiopian officials.

Somali officials dispute these claims and insist that there has been no Somali withdrawal.

Confusion reigns over Sinai settlement plans

YADOT, occupied Sinai Feb. 16 (AP). — The Israeli government has apparently shelved plans for two new settlements here, but work on existing Jewish outposts is going on as usual.

Settlement leaders said bulldozers were to have begun flattening land for two new villages two weeks ago, but nothing had been done so far.

This fell into line with an Israeli cabinet decision Jan. 8 to stop building new settlements in this northeastern corner of the Sinai peninsula.

But a confusing situation remains as a result of conflicting views in the cabinet on Israel's disputed settlements policy, which the United States has strongly rebuked as a hindrance to peace.

"We don't know what goes on anymore," complained Yossi Maas, a farmer in Sadot five miles inside what used to be Egyptian-held land. "Weizman seems to pull one way and Sharon the other," he complained.

Mr. Maas was referring to Defence Minister Ezer Weizman and to Ariel Sharon, the government hawkish chief of settlement policy who has been pushing for a mass campaign to populate Sinai and the West Bank of the Jordan River with Jews.

Mr. Sharon has been accused by Israeli moderates of trying to force the government's hand by establishing facts on the ground, such as fencing off plots of land in Sinai and constructing watchtowers even in areas where no settlements are planned for the near future.

Mr. Sharon insists he has acted only with cabinet approval.

As word leaked out last week that Mr. Sharon had ordered land fenced off west of here, Mr. Weizman announced that he had ordered the local military government to authorize no new settlement construction.

The apparent contradiction reflects the tightrope the government is walking between American censure and pressure by the Sinai settlers to add to their numbers.

Most irksome to the settlers is Prime Minister Menachem Begin's offer to withdraw from all of Sinai and leave the settlements under Egyptian sovereignty but administered by Israelis.

The 13,000-acre Rafah Salient, as the area is called, must serve, the settlers say, as a wedge between Egyptian soldiers and the nearby Gaza Strip where anti-Israeli feelings run high among 300,000 Palestinian refugees living there.

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Special relationships, special responsibilities

In today's issue of the Jordan Times, we are reprinting a Sunday Times report on the latest developments in the continuing controversy over Israeli torture of Arab prisoners, including the text of the recent report on human rights in Israel issued by the United States State Department. Because of the Sunday Times' bold reporting effort last year, the Israeli authorities now allow Red Cross representatives to visit an Arab prisoner within 14 days of his or her detention, as opposed to the 18-day lag that the Israelis had previously used. The Red Cross can also send its own doctor to examine the prisoners.

These are small improvements, but more in the realm of drops in the bucket than a thorough overhaul of the repugnant procedures by which the Israeli authorities detain Arabs without charging them with any specific crime and then carry out lengthy "interrogation" that routinely includes several torture techniques. The fact remains that in those 14 days before the Red Cross is notified of the arrest of an Arab (invariably a Palestinian) person, the Israelis have plenty of time to use their assorted torture techniques to make the detainee sign a false confession, which is then used in a swift court hearing, usually held in Hebrew, to sentence the person to many years in prison. The whole system of "justice" used by the Israelis in the occupied territories is one big parody of the dictates of human rights that are so vehemently upheld by those many countries in the Western World who say they have a "special relationship" with Israel.

The Sunday Times was very brave in investigating Israel's routine denial of fundamental human rights in the use of torture (let alone deportations, collective punishments, destruction of property and the other areas of equally outlandish Israeli actions). The people who are so concerned in the West with human rights would do well now to follow up Israel's practices and behaviour in this area, if, for no other reason, than to fulfill the obligations of one's special relationships.

ARAB PRESS COMMENTARY

AL DUSTOUR Thursday says the Israeli government has taken up the limited number of aircraft which President Jimmy Carter approved supplying them to Egypt and Saudi Arabia to make out of it a "serious issue" posing an imbalance of power between the Arabs and Israel and threatening peace discussions... Israel's artificial uproar, heralds a large-scale propaganda campaign which Mr. Menachem Begin intends to launch against the U.S. government, particularly inside Congress, so as to prove to President Carter that the influential and pro-Israeli forces working inside the bodies through which the president's decisions should pass, are still enjoying their prestigious position, the newspaper maintains.

So, what incensed Mr. Begin and made him issue his urgent appeal from inside the Knesset to Mr. Carter to reconsider the deal, was not his fear of its size -- a mere drop in the sea of the American-supplied Israel's military arsenal.

Rather, Mr. Begin was vexed over the "political significance" of President Carter's decision, denoting that Israel's will has ceased to be the only channel through which the American-Arab relationship would pass, the newspaper adds.

It goes on to say that although this trend is a positive initiative, yet one ought not overstate it at the Arab level, because the American commitments to Israel are still valid and continuing, as represented in the material, and military backing by the most up-to-date and developed weapons.

AUB expert arrives to advise on resettling Petra tribe

By Susan M. Balderstone
 Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN, Feb. 16 (JT). — Two anthropologists from Beirut arrived yesterday to study problems associated with the Government's plan to resettle the Bedouin tribe at present living amongst the ruins at Petra. Dr. Gerald Obermeyer, Assistant Professor of Anthropology at the American University of Beirut, and his wife Carla, also an anthropologist, have come at the invitation of the Department of Tourism and Antiquities.

It is not the first time Dr. Obermeyer has been called in to give advice on this kind of problem. He has done consultancy work on resettlement problems in Egypt, and has advised on a mother-child education project amongst tribes in Oman.

Panel discussion

Both Dr. and Mrs. Obermeyer will take part in the panel discussion on "The Resettlement of the Bedouin Tribes in Petra" which has been organized by the Friends of Archaeology. This will take place at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday, Feb. 22 at the Haya Arts Centre and will be open to the public. Among other speakers will be Mr. Youssef Alami, Director of the Ministry of Tourism's Petra-Jerash project and Dr. James Sauer, Director of the American Centre of Oriental Research.

Prince Mohammad chairs meeting on tourism development



His Highness Prince Mohammad chairs a meeting of the Higher Committee for Tourism Affairs in Amman Thursday. Mr. Ghaleb Barakat, Minister of Tourism and Antiquities, is seated to the right of the Prince while Mr. Michael Hamaneh, Director General of Tourism is to his left.

AMMAN, Feb. 16 (JNA). — His Highness Prince Mohammad, today chaired a meeting of the Higher Committee for Tourism Affairs when topics for promoting tourism in Jordan were debated.

The committee reviewed plans for developing tourism in Aqaba, particularly with regard to providing every possible help to divers and skiers by the Aqua Marina Club at the port.

In this context, Prince Mohammad stressed the need for continuous improvement of services catered to tourists at Aqaba in a way as to enable them to enjoy their stay in this important touristic attraction.

Prince Mohammad also wanted the treatment of tourists to conform with Jordan's good name as a hospitable country which respects the wishes of the tourists, the guests of Jordan.

The Prince also listened to a detailed account about developing of Petra and Jarash, as two important historical and touristic places. Their development, during the next three years, will cost some \$12

million, half of which will come from a loan by the World Bank.

Under this scheme, the Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities, would be able to double the accommodation facilities at Petra to the tune of 122 double bedrooms, besides a camp accommodating 120 tents, erecting an antiquity research centre inside the City of Petra, and building a village to rehouse Bedouin tribes presently living inside the historic town.

The ministry will further be able to build two large restaurants in Petra and Jarash in addition to introduction of Son et lumiere (sound and light) programmes into Jarash for the first time.

His Highness Prince Mohammad stressed his interest in the welfare of the Bedouin tribes. He asked that in all sketches and buildings to be erected in Jarash and Petra, the antique character should be maintained.

The Higher Committee for Tourism will hold two monthly meetings instead of one, in accordance with the wishes of Prince Mohammad, for following up touristic issues and questions in Jordan.

Crown Prince discusses £1m British loan to JCO Islamic Bank with Saudi delegate to technology policy conference

By Ian Kellas
 Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN, Feb. 16 — The Jordan Cooperation Organisation (JCO) was given a boost today when an agreement was signed between the British government and the National Planning Council (NPC) to provide a £1 million loan to the organisation.

In a ceremony this morning NPC President Dr. Hanna Odeh and British Ambassador John Moberly signed an exchange of letters to finalise the agreement.

The British loan will mainly benefit small and medium-sized farmers in Jordan. About two thirds of it will be handed on to these farmers via the Co-operative Bank in the form of short-term seasonal loans. They will use the money to buy items like seed and fertiliser.

The remaining £400,000 will be used by the JCO's agricultural supply department to buy farm materials from Britain. The organisation is right now drawing up a shopping list. Green houses, fertilizers, and spraying equipment are likely to be on the list.

There are now about 10,000 farmers who belong to agricultural multi-purpose cooperatives in Jordan. And in 1976 they were responsible for the cultivation of 463,083 dunams of land.

A man who owns a 30 dunam (eight acre) plot obviously cannot afford a tractor seeder of his own. He may not even have the spare cash to pay for the seed that he will need to plant a new crop. The JCO exists to encourage just this sort of farmer to join a co-operative. The cooperative (with a membership of say, 200) will be able to share the expense of farm materials and help to market produce.

The cooperative will also apply on behalf of all its members for credit from the Co-operative Bank. The bank at present has a capital of about JD 3 million, so the British loan should make quite a difference.

AMMAN, Feb. 16 (JNA). — Prince Hassan attended a graduation celebration of karate trainers (instructors) at the infantry school this morning. Following a performance by the new graduates, Prince Hassan praised the high standard of training they achieved and then distributed certificates, belts and prizes.

They also reviewed economic relations and means of strengthening them between the two countries.

The delegation also met with President of National Planning Council, Dr. Hanna Odeh who explained Jordan's development policy for implementing the five-year plan and that of other sectors.

He also discussed with the members of the delegation possibilities of cooperation between Jordan and foreign establishments in carrying out projects in the development plan of Jordan.

AMMAN, Feb. 16 (JNA). — His Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Viceroy, received at noon today Prince Mohammad Al Faisal Al Saud, of Saudi Arabia.

Discussions during the meeting, dealt with the existing close cooperation between Saudi Arabia and Jordan in various fields and the current situation in the area.

The question of Jordanian Islamic Bank which will emerge in the near future, was also taken up.

The meeting was attended by Prince Raad Ibn Zeid, Chief Chamberlain, and Kamel Al Sharif Minister of Waqf, Islamic and Holy Places Affairs.

Prince Mohammad Al Faisal arrived here earlier today to take part in the Science and Technology Policy Conference due to open in Amman on Saturday.

He was received at the airport by the Chief Chamberlain, the Minister of Waqf and other officials.

Prince Hassan discusses investment opportunities with French delegation

The Crown Prince also received today a French delegation which represents a group of financial, consultant and executive companies and establishments currently visiting Jordan. During the meeting His Highness concentrated on the most

Science, technology conference aims to wed productive potential to national development goals

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If we subtract school teachers from these figures, we have left about 10,000 college graduates and 5,500 technicians. If we also exclude those specialising in the social sciences and humanities, we are left with about 2,000 scientists and engineers.

According to 1976 figures, there are about 1,400 scientists, engineers or scholars engaged in science and technology related activities, of whom 583 scientists and engineers are in research and experimental development (full-time or part-time) equivalent to 208 full-time researchers. Among the 583 are 231 PhD holders. Jordan has the full time equivalent of 103 scientists and engineers in research and development per million persons. It has the full-time equivalent of 54 technicians per million. These figures are derived in order to provide a basis for comparison with other countries.

The science and technology potential survey estimates that in 1976 Jordan spent approximately JD 15 million on

science and technology activities, including about JD 2 million on research and development. The latter figure is equivalent to 0.4 per cent of the gross national product, another useful base for comparison.

Part of the picture that emerges is that the production sector in Jordan (industrial and trading establishments which produce and distribute goods and services for sale and other establishments directly serving them) is responsible for less than eight per cent of those employed in science and technology activities, and the same figure holds regarding research and experimental development (full-time equivalent).

This sector accounts for only seven per cent of Jordan's total expenditure on research and development. The production sector undertook seven out of the 178 research and development projects completed in 1976. Clearly, the production sector is not sponsoring or initiating its due share of research.

The general services sector (public sector agencies and organisations and companies in contract with the government) is carrying the major burden

of research. It has 34 per cent of those engaged in science and technology activities and 56 per cent of the total in research development; (full-time equivalent).

It is responsible for the bulk of contributions in natural sciences, agriculture, science and engineering and technology. It accounts for a healthy 63 per cent of Jordan's total expenditure on research and development. This sector was responsible for 41 of the 178 projects in research and development completed in 1976.

The higher education sector is responsible for the rest of the work in research, and the remaining expenditure. It is very active, having been responsible for 130 out of the 178 projects completed in 1976; it footed about one-third of the expenditure on research and development in the same year; and it employed 58 per cent of those engaged in science and technology activities and 36 per cent of those in research and development (full-time equivalent). The problem with the research being conducted by the higher education sector is the predominant concentration on the social science and humanities.

Jordan is suffering from brain drain, and the flight of manpower. (An estimated 300,000 Jordanians, most of them skilled, work abroad) and the country suffers from a shortage of skilled manpower. The level of manpower engaged in research and development is not very high compared to developed countries, and even some developing countries.

A similar situation obtains in spending on research and development. The contribution of the production sector is very low compared to most countries, including underdeveloped ones. This goes directly against the objectives of the national development plans.

Jordan does have potential for science and technology; we compare favourably with other developing nations on other terms, such as the percentage of engineers and scientists working full-time on research and development in the field of engineering and technology itself, and the per capita expenditure on scientific and technological activities.

Compared to other countries in terms of expenditure on research and development, Jordan's current expenditures are among the lowest, while its capital expenditures (involving non-recurring expenditures such as on buildings, laboratories, machines and the like) are one of the highest in the world.

Id, compared to Jordan's GNP. This is a reflection of the country's stage of development and reflects the fact that Jordan is making a start towards building an infrastructure for science and technology, Dr. Bassam Saket said.

Missing framework

A comprehensive policy requires an institutional framework for science and technology.

"You need four compatible levels in order to form a science and technology structure," Dr. Daghestani says. According to UNESCO surveys, these functional levels are:

- 1) Planning, decision and control.
- 2) Coordination, promotion and finance.
- 3) Execution of research and development.
- 4) Scientific and technological public services.

In Jordan, the first two functional levels are missing, Dr. Daghestani continues. There is room for flexibility; the organisation of any level need not follow a rigid pattern, for there is no one body responsible for overall policy formulation or national planning in the area of science and technology could be a national council for science policy with an administrative secretariat. This council would be attached to the office of the King or the prime minister. The function of decision-making or top-level execution of national policy could be exercised by a minister of state for science and technology. Control (over the budget) is exercised by parliament.

The second functional level, which should be separate from the first in the interest of decentralisation and administrative and financial autonomy, could be an academy of sciences or a national council for scientific research, or may be split up into several bodies such as national councils for agricultural research, industrial research, medical research and perhaps even an atomic energy commission.

As the classification suggests, this body, or bodies, would be in charge of coordinating research activities in the country and allocating available financial resources to this research institution or that, in keeping with the guidelines provided at the planning and decision-making level.

The third and fourth functional levels are available in Jordan, but institutions within these two levels function ran-

domly because of the absence of the first two levels.

"In institutional structure we are not ahead of other Arab countries," Dr. Daghestani told me. "Iraq, Egypt, Sudan, Algeria, Tunisia and Morocco already have the first two levels. Others have done ten years ago what we are trying to do now."

The third level consists of research institutions, universities, industrial research departments and the like. The principal organisations or institutions currently operating within this level are the Royal Scientific Society, the University of Jordan, Yarmouk University, and the Directorate of Research and Agricultural Extension at the Ministry of Agriculture. Private industrial research is almost nonexistent.

At the fourth level, Jordan has an adequate network of scientific and technological public services. Institutions at this level are involved in activities related to the application of science and technology: Natural resources and environmental services such as mapping, geological surveys, soil surveys, water supply, energy supply, information and documentation services such as university clinics and technology transfer centres, in addition to bureaux of standards, tests and measures, museums, zoological and geological exhibits, and archaeological collections.

The surprising thing about Jordan's experience in this field is that for a while we had the cart before the horses. The now defunct Jordanian Scientific Research Council (established in 1964, reorganised in 1972 and abolished in 1976), was placed in charge of planning, regulating and coordinating and sponsoring scientific research. In the 1972 attempt to resuscitate it, was linked directly to the prime minister, given autonomy, financial and administrative independence and a board of directors. The operation failed.

As the paper on a National Policy-making Body for Science and Technology in Jordan will point out, this was due to such factors as the JSRC's unbearably diffuse spectrum of activities, ranging all the way from recommending policy to actual documentation and hiring researchers, as well as such compelling reasons for failure as a total budget of JD 11,600 in 1973 and the extraordinary sum of JD 400 "allocated for promoting and

sponsoring research in the various sectors" in the same year.

The overall impression is that the JSRC, which could have fitted loosely in the first two functional levels, was premature. Now that the third and fourth levels are better represented, a more realistic start is feasible.

What direction should this take? What sort of institutions should Jordan set up? I asked Dr. Butros that question. "A coherent policy will help the RSS and the universities clarify their objectives," he began, but "We are certainly not envisaging a body that would dictate to research organisations what they should do."

"From a personal viewpoint, I would prefer a system where the carrying out of research by the various organisations should be hooked to financial incentives."

He went on to outline a system of grants providing incentives for organisations to move towards satisfying requirements of Jordan's development plans, but not barring such organisations from pursuing their own research.

"I would hate to see the universities lose their spirit of enquiry," he went on.

Dr. Butros stressed that he would like to see fiscal control over research rather than dictation to scientists as to which avenues they should pursue.

There are three alternatives, he explained. The government could set priorities and issue outright directives. Or the government could provide suggestions concerning avenues of research. This is the method used in several countries. Egypt, for example, has the Academy of Scientific Research and Technology which sets policy and hands out grants to various organisations within the objectives of its plan and according to the qualifications and areas of expertise of the recipients. Britain has five research councils which operate in this way.

The third alternative is to have no comprehensive national policy at all. "Once one reaches a certain stage of development, almost any avenue of research becomes important," Dr. Butros says.

"We don't have to follow any particular model," he adds. "However, we should take advantage of Jordan's characteristics. The number of research institutions is small. We have easier access to each other; we don't operate under constraints of long distances and it is easier for us to pool our resources. An inter-disciplinary approach is easy to encourage."

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مكتبة الأمل

National News Roundup

Al Akhbar suspended

AMMAN, Feb. 16 (JNA). — The military governor has decided to suspend the Jordanian Al Akhbar daily newspaper for three days starting Friday for publishing advertisements for vacancies for jobs abroad against the instructions issued on this subject.

Four merchants fined

AMMAN, Feb. 16 (JNA). — The military governor today approved a martial law tribunal sentence on four merchants for disobeying Supply Ministry regulations. The four will each pay a fine of JD60.

Agreement signed with Singapore

AMMAN, Feb. 16 (JNA). — The Jordanian government and a leading Singapore firm signed here today an agreement for the execution of the Amman Industrial City project near the town of Sahab. According to the agreement, the firm will make necessary studies for the project to be carried out under the supervision of the Jordanian Industrial Development Bank. The chairman of the National Planning Council and a representative of the firm signed the agreement in the presence of the under secretary of the Ministry of Industry and Commerce and the manager of the Industrial Development Bank.

Voluntary labour camp opens

AMMAN, Feb. 16 (JNA). — Yarmouk University has started its first camp for voluntary work at the town of South Shouneh. The camp aims at changing the attitude of young men to manual work and public service through participating in the five-year development plan and in local community projects. The camp will last for four days.

Public Security plan for 1978 reviewed

AMMAN, Feb. 16 (JNA). — Public Security Director Maj. Gen. Ghazi Arabiyat today presided over a meeting at the Directorate of Public Security during which he reviewed the Directorate's 1977 achievements and its 1978 plan.

Ajloun gets JD 50,000 loan

AMMAN, Feb. 16 (JNA). — The Municipal and Rural Credit Fund has approved a JD 50,000 loan for the municipality of Ajloun in Irbid governorate. The loan will be used to build a new school in Ajloun. The general director of the Credit Fund stated that loans given to municipalities and rural councils during January amounted to JD 1,588,550 spent on sewerage, electricity and water projects, building of schools, roads and public buildings.

Designs completed for speed limit road signs

AMMAN, Feb. 16 (JNA). — The Ministry of Public Works has completed designing road-signs for speed limits which will be placed all over the roads in the Kingdom.

Teachers Social Security Fund approved

AMMAN, Feb. 16 (JNA). — Minister of Education Abdul Salam Al Majali presided over a meeting of the Educational Committee which was held at the Ministry of Education today. During the meeting the committee approved the systems of educational research and the establishment of a Social Security Fund for the Ministry's employees.

Amman Stock Exchange Report

NAME OF COMPANY	Nominal share value	Volume traded	Opening price	Highest selling price	Lowest selling price	Closing price	Last buying bid	Last selling bid
1. Dar Al Dawra for Development and Investment	JD 1,000	1,110	1,300	1,150	1,150	1,150	—	—
2. Arab Aluminium Co.	JD 1,000	715	1,000	1,050	1,000	1,050	—	1,050
3. Jordan Electric Co.	JD 1,000	1,980	1,400	1,450	1,450	1,450	—	—
4. Jordan Cement Factory	JD 10,000	2,425	15,600	15,650	15,650	15,650	15,650	15,750
5. Paper and Cardboard Factory	JD 1,000	328	1,050	1,050	1,050	1,050	—	1,050
6. Jordan Petroleum Co.	JD 5,000	1,319	6,850	6,850	6,800	6,800	—	—

Total volume traded, Thursday, Feb. 16: JD 7,757

TCC director general says in interview:

Telecommunications master plan calls for JD 50 million investment from 1980-1985

By Ian Kellas

Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN, Feb. 16 (J.T.). — Relief is at hand for Amman's telephone subscribers. Thanks to crash programmes being undertaken at the moment, there will be marked improvements in the city's telephone service within a couple of months, the Director General of the Telecommunications Corporation revealed today.

Mr. Mohammad Shahab Ismail told the Jordan Times that the improvements would be felt gradually over the next few weeks, while Amman's public exchanges are upgraded and a total of 960 new junction circuits are linked into the system (by Plessey of the U.K.).

So it seems that it may soon actually be possible to get a connection from the university to Jabal Amman without giving your index finger a blister.

And if that seems too good to be true there is also the prospect of walking down Amman's pavements fearless of getting tripped up by swooping telephone lines. Tenders are going out in a month's time for the upgrading of the city's transmission, and this will involve laying all cables underground.

Comprehensive plan

This project is likely to cost JD 1,500,000 and it is only part of a comprehensive plan for Jordan's telecommunications over the next ten years, which is at present under internal discussion at the corporation.

"The national telecommunications fundamental plan" has just been retained by the corporation's present consultants. Teleconsult Incorporated (of the U.S.). In an exercise of "management participation," the plan is being discussed at a series of seminars at the Corporation.

ation, before being presented to the board of directors for approval. Within two or three months it should have passed through all the stages of government vetting.

The plan estimates considerable growth in demand for telephones in the period up to 1985 which it covers. In 1975 there were 34,300 telephones in the greater Amman region.

By 1985, the plan says, there will be 111,200. Now the telephone density here is five per cent of the population; by then it will be nearly 12 per cent.

To cover this demand, the plan proposes that JD 50 million must be spent by the Corporation between 1980 and 1985.

Conservative

This is double what will probably be spent during the present five year plan. But Mr. Ismail made it clear that he felt this was a little conservative.

"We believe," he said "that telecommunications are a basic part of the infrastructure of the economy of this country." "You need telecommunications as an essential service for every project, no matter what type."

"We are confident," he continued "that the government will not hesitate in supporting us and in securing outside lo-

ans for the implementation (of our projects)".

Apart from making financial and technical projections for the fundamental plan, Teleconsult have been compiling a national inventory of the corporation's assets. This is the first step in putting its accounting system on a commercial basis.

The corporation will shortly be using the double entry accounts system which means drawing up profit and loss balances. This is in accordance with the corporation's founding law which requires it to become an autonomous self-sustaining body -- different from a government department.

The American consultants Morcom Incorporated are supervising this conversion.

Advanced technology

Mr. Ismail stressed that the corporation would employ the most advanced technology in its programme of expansion. He gave three examples.

A contract has already been awarded to Nishio-Iwai (Fujitsu Ltd.) for the construction of five main public exchanges of the semi-electronic type. These make use of "the most advanced established" switching technology. The central controls are computerized with a system called Stored Programme Control, which is apparently very sophisticated. The contract, awarded last month is worth \$30 million and the exchanges are

expected at the end of 1979. Another advanced technology project is for the construction of Jordan's second satellite earth tracking station.

A letter of intent has now been signed with the Japanese firm NEC for the \$9 million contract. The station will helpfully come into operation in time for the launching, in 1979, of the international satellite, Intelsat 5. Jordan will be one of the first countries to be able to beam in to it.

Automatic telex

Tenders moreover have just been received for a fully electronic telex exchange. The contract (worth about JD 500,000) is likely to be awarded in about a month's time. When the exchange is complete -- by mid 1979 according to plan -- subscribers will get immediate telex service without having to queue for it. The new exchange will increase Amman's capacity from 800 lines to 2,000 and still leave room for further expansion to 20,000.

And there are other bigger projects envisaged in the fundamental plan. One is for a national switching centre. This will be fully automated and make it possible to direct dial abroad without using an operator.

There will also be a new central exchange in Amman to replace the present out-moded electro-mechanical one.

And perhaps the biggest project is the so-called seven cities plan, which will provide telephone services in the rural areas. This is still just in the planning stage, but it is likely to cost about \$30 million.

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Carter intervenes to get coal miners, mine owners to resume talks

WASHINGTON, Feb. 16 (R). — Pit owners and striking coal miners, urged on by President Carter, resume negotiations today to end the crippling 73-day coal strike. The walk-out by 160,000 miners, the longest pit strike in U.S. history, has caused substantial electricity cuts in several east-central states, hit industrial production and threatened millions of other workers with being laid off.

The two sides met at the White House last night and agreed after a personal appeal from President Carter to start new talks this morning under the chairmanship of Labour Secretary Ray Marshall. Mr. Carter also planned today to meet with governors of 12 states hardest hit by the shutdown in coal stocks to discuss plans to deal with the crisis.

Some states said it would take two weeks after the strike ends to restore normal electricity services.

Rank and file miners last Sunday rejected new three-year contract agreed between their union and mine owners which would have raised pay from \$7.80 to \$10.15 an hour. The miners balked at claus-

es in the contract covering health and pension programmes and providing heavy fines in cases of unofficial strikes and absenteeism.

Mr. Carter, who spoke to the negotiators for five minutes at the start of the meeting last night, intervened in the dispute on Tuesday when he asked both sides to come to the White House.

Industrial production drops

The Federal Reserve Board, the U.S. central bank, yesterday said the coal strike, along with severe winter weather, had hit the economy hard in January, causing the biggest decline in industrial production in 34 months.

The board's monthly industrial production report said

output of mines, factories and utilities dropped 0.7 per cent, the largest monthly decline in 34 months.

Retail sales fell 3.1 per cent, the biggest drop in more than 13 years.

With the bad weather continuing into February and the unsettled coal strike expected to bring major factory shutdowns soon, the statistics were a particularly bad omen.

They also augured badly for President Carter's prediction in his economic message to Congress last month that the first six months of 1978 would be the better half of the year for the economy.

Mr. Carter had proposed countering an expected second half weakness with a \$24.5 billion tax cut.

Israel's cost of living index rose 2.3% in January

JERUSALEM, Feb. 16 (R).

Israel's cost of living (COL) index rose by 2.3 per cent in January bringing the index to 1704 points based on the average for 1976 when the new COL index was calculated, the Central Bureau of Statistics announced today.

Since the government introduced its new economic policy with a free foreign exchange rate last October the COL index has risen by 16.6 per cent and is now 26.6 per cent higher than the average for 1977 and 70.4 per cent above the 1976 average.

The Ministry of Communications today announced a five per cent increase in the cost of overseas telephone and telex services in view of changes in exchange rates since the last setting. Municipal rates are also likely to increase by about 50 per cent in the coming months, the Ministry of the Interior said.

Workers demands for higher wages last year cost the country 416,526 work days lost in 126 full strikes, according to Minister of Labour and Social Affairs Mr. Israel Katz.

Explosion blows hole in trans-Alaska pipeline

FAIRBANKS, Alaska, Feb. 16 (AP). — A six-meter length of fuse and a black stain on the snow are evidence in what state troopers say is the second attempt to blow up the trans-Alaska pipeline.

A sabotage attempt last summer did not even dent the \$7.7 billion pipe, but on Wednesday a hole was blown in the 120-centimeter steel line.

Thousands of barrels of thick Prudhoe Bay crude oil -- no exact figure was available -- gushed over the tundra for hours. The 1,280 km-long pipeline was shut down shortly after the spill was reported and the flow was slowed to a drip late Wednesday.

An Alyeska Pipeline Service

Co. spokesman said the line should be operating again in 24 hours. A "sleeve" was being welded over the hole in the half-inch-thick steel.

Asked whether he would describe the explosion as sabotage, State Police Sgt. Larry Mix said, "I would describe it as somebody using an explosive device to blow a hole in the pipeline."

No arrests were reported. The oil was contained in an area 180 meters in diameter around an above-ground section of the pipe about 10 kms. east of Fairbanks, Alyeska reported. The amount of oil lost was not known, but estimates of the peak rate ranged up to three barrels per second.

Clues at the spill site included a length of slow-burning fuse, a hole at the base of a depression in the pipe and a black stain on the snow.

This is the fourth significant leak since oil began flowing from Prudhoe Bay to the Valdez pipeline terminal last spring. The previous leaks were attributed to human error.

Last summer, three Fairbanks men were charged in connection with a sabotage attempt that did little but shared the thick layer of insulation on the line.

Mr. Turner confirmed that the pipeline's highly sophisticated leak detection system had not picked up the spill. It was reported by a private pilot flying over the line.

Islamic Development Bank allocates \$75 m.

JEDDAH, Saudi Arabia, Feb. 16 (R). — The Islamic Development Bank is allocating more than \$75 million toward projects in six countries, it was announced yesterday.

A bank statement said about \$47 million would go to the Dubai Housing Development of Badr, \$15 million to the Pakistan Refinery Limited and \$12 million to the Tomoson project in Konya, Turkey, for the production of tractors.

People in the News

U.S. files suit against ex-CIA agent

WASHINGTON, (AP). — The Carter administration filed suit Wednesday to recover all profits that former Central Intelligence Agency officer Frank Senepp may make from a book criticizing the U.S. evacuation from Vietnam. The suit alleges that Mr. Senepp broke a contract by publishing the book, Decent Interval, without government approval. Mr. Senepp has said that he did not feel bound by the secrecy agreement with the government because other CIA officials, including former Director William E. Colby, had leaked their version of the fall of Saigon to reporters.

Solo pilot leaves Greece for Cairo

HERAKLION, Greece, Feb. 16 (R). — British air force pilot David Cyster, flying solo to Australia in his Tiger moth bi-plane, left here today for Cairo. An airport spokesman said he took off in good weather although there was cloud over his southern flight path. Flight Lieutenant Cyster is flying 9,250 nautical miles from Britain to Australia to commemorate the first solo flight from Britain to Australia 50 years ago.

Sorry 1969, it isn't 1984 yet

MINNEAPOLIS, (R). — Michael Dengler has been old this week he cannot change his name to 1984. A judge told Mr. Dengler he was denying the request because using numbers instead of names was an "offence to basic dignity and inherently totalitarian." Mr. Dengler, a former social studies teacher, argued that 1969 symbolised his "interrelationship with society and reflects my personal and philosophical identity." He said the general rule of law allowed a person to change his name as long as it was not done for fraudulent purposes. District Judge Donald Barbeau cited a New Jersey Supreme Court decision that courts could refuse official recognition to a name that is "bizarre".

The Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development: A report

Editor's note: Following is a report on the Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development taken from the February issue of the OAPC News Bulletin. The Arab Fund has expanded significantly during 1977 and has vastly increased its ability to assist Arab countries in implementing development projects. This report identifies projects undertaken by the fund and gives a breakdown of the distribution of loans over the past year.

Introduction

The Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development is an independent Arab regional financial institution whose objective is to promote the economic and social development of the Arab states and countries by:

1. Financing economic projects of an investment character by means of loans granted on easy terms to governments and to public or private organisations and institutions, giving preference to economic projects that are vital to the Arab entity and to joint Arab projects.

2. Encouraging, directly or indirectly, the investment of public and private capital in such a manner as to ensure

the development and growth of the Arab economy.

3. Providing technical expertise and assistance in the various fields of economic development.

Thus the Arab Fund is in effect the regional development bank of the Arab World. Moreover, its mandate covers the social as well as economic aspects of development. The

significance of this latter fact is underlined by the explicit reference made to it both in the preamble to the fund's objectives as well as in the name of the institution itself.

The agreement establishing the Arab Fund was approved by the Economic Council of the League of Arab States on May 16, 1968, and entered into force on Dec. 18, 1971. The first meeting of the Board of Governors was held from Feb. 6 to 7, 1972. It was in April 1973, however, during the second meeting of the Board of Governors, that the Board of Directors of the fund was empowered to formulate the policies necessary to start operations.

The authorised capital is 400 million Kuwaiti dinars (approximately \$1.4 billion) divided into 4,000 shares. In addition, the Arab Fund may borrow by issuing bonds to lenders, public or private, within or outside member countries. The value of the bonds issued by the Arab Fund may not, at any time, exceed twice the amount of the Arab Fund's capital, unless by special resolution of the Arab Fund's Board of Governors.

During 1977 activities of the Arab Fund were expanded significantly. The fund contributed KD 103.9 million to help finance 15 projects in 11 Arab countries, covering 7.7 per cent of their cost (see table 1).

Since the commencement of operations in the early part of 1973, the Arab Fund has extended 46 loans to various Arab countries. The cumulative total value of these loans amounted to KD 285.3 million by Dec. 31, 1977, with the fund's contribution in 1977 representing about 35.19 per cent of this total. The total cost of projects financed by the fund is estimated at KD 1,347.8 million.

The year 1977 witnessed a substantial increase in the Arab Fund's involvement in technical assistance activities at both the regional and country levels, with special emphasis on assisting member countries to enhance their ability to implement development projects.

The fund's total commitments to technical assistance activities up to Dec. 31, 1977, amounted to KD 3.4 million for 29 projects. During 1977 the fund contributed KD 805,000 for 15 projects.

Table 2 shows the distribution of fund loans by country in 1977. Morocco was the largest beneficiary, with 17.3 per cent of the total amount of loans, followed by the Arab Republic of Yemen, with 13.4 per cent, and then Egypt and Algeria, with 11.6 per cent each.

The distribution of loans by sector of the economy, as table 3 indicates, shows the Fund places overwhelming emphasis on the development of infrastructure. All loans in 1977 were given for infrastructure projects, with power projects taking the major share, \$111 million or 30.7 per cent of the total amount of loans in 1977. Following is a

description of loans concluded in 1977 to finance power projects:

— To install capacity for electricity generation at a central station at Hodeida, Arab Republic of Yemen. Power will be supplied to San'a and the rural areas surrounding Hodeida, Taiz and San'a as well as to villages along the transmission line between Hodeida and San'a.

— To rehabilitate, repair and strengthen the electricity supply in Lebanon. The project involves the extension of the 150 KV national network into North Lebanon, building the necessary switching and transformer substations, interconnecting Syria and Lebanon through a 230 KV transmission line and carrying out a series of studies for the electricity sector.

— To increase the generating capacity of the Hussein Power Station, strengthen the substations at Marja and construct a new substation in Amman, Jordan.

— To increase the generating capacity and strengthen the distribution network of the 200-MW gas turbine station at Rifaa, Bahrain.

— To increase the capacity of the Syrian power generation system by 300 MW.

Loans to finance projects to expand or construct ports in the Arab countries amounted to \$59.2 million or 16.3 per cent of total loans, making this sector the second largest beneficiary of fund loans in 1977. The port projects involved are:

— Beirut Port: To dredge

basin and entrance channel to a depth of 11 metres and construct three quays (Nos. 12, 13, 14) to provide a total berthing length of 890 metres.

— Jijel Port: To provide a port at Djendjen near Jijel (400 kms. east of Algiers) to serve an industrial complex to be constructed in the region. The fund also contributed \$41.8 million to finance the deepening of the Suez Canal to enable accommodation of ships up to 300,000 tons empty and 53 ft. in draft.

The aims of other projects financed in 1977 are:

— To support the Caisse Nationale de Credit Agricole of Morocco, which provides credit for the promotion and improvement of agricultural activities. The Arab Fund's loan will cover 40 per cent of the cost of machinery, vehicles, imported improved livestock and farm construction.

— To set up a 1.2 million tons/year cement factory, which will use the dry process, at Oujda, Morocco.

— Road projects in Somalia:

a. Hargaisa -- Bordma Road: To help in the transportation of livestock, reduce high vehicle operating costs and overcome traffic interruptions during the rainy seasons.

b. Goulen -- Gelib Road: To link Mogadishu and Lower Jubba area around Kismayo by an all-weather 257 km. road, thus opening up new agricultural areas in the region.

— San'a Water Supply: To meet the needs of San'a in 1978. The project provides direct water connections to 75 per cent of the city's projected population in 1982, and the remainder will be provided with safe water through public taps. The project components include well equipment and a water quality laboratory.

— Sudan Railways Corporation: To enhance the performance of the Railway Corporation and satisfy its future needs. It consists of truck rail rehabilitation and/or improvement, signalling and telecommunication equipment, diesel locomotives and freight wagons.

— Development Line: Credit in Tunis: To help Banque de Developpement Economique de la Tunisie (BDET) in its industrial development efforts through extension of a line of credit to be used to finance projects approved by the fund.

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LOCAL EXCHANGE RATES

	Jordanian 1
	Buying/sell
U.S. dollar	313.00/315
U.K. sterling	606.00/610
W. German mark	148.60/150
Swiss franc	162.90/163
French franc	64.60/65
Italian lire (for every 100)	36.50/36
Japanese yen (for every 100)	130.10/131
Dutch guilder	139.90/141
Belgian franc (for every ten)	96.20/96
Swedish crown	66.90/67

FOREIGN EXCHANGE RATE

LONDON, Feb. 16 (R). — Following are the buying and sell rates for leading world currencies against the dollar at the rate of inter-bank trading on the London foreign exchange market day. Tourist rates will differ from those quoted below.

	U.S. dollars	West German marks	Dutch guilders	Swiss francs	Belgian francs	French francs	Italian lire	Japanese yen	Swedish crowns	Norwegian crowns	Denish crowns
One sterling	1.9415/25										
One dollar	2.0625/60										
	2.225/50										
	1.9960/90										
	32.16/21										
	4.3350/8400										
	856.25/857.00										
	239.90/240.10										
	4.6450/70										
	5.3940/60										
	5.6790/6805										

LONDON MARKET REPORT

Government bonds rose by up to 1/4 on balance after substantial mixed movements in light trading Thursday. Equities erased initial gains to close slightly lower, dealers at 15:00 hrs the F.T. index was down 0.2 at 453.0.

Bonds gained during early trading but they were mopped up by up to one full point following news of a substantial increase in the U.K. money supply figures. They recovered on modest buying around the close to show small net rises dealers.

Gold shares closed steady to mixed while some U.S. equities issues eased.

Leading industrials closed mixed. Lucas, Reed, British Alcan Tobacco, Thorn, Metal Box and Guest Keen gained up 1 while Bowaters, Fisons, Glaxo, ICI and Unilever lost up to 1. Among easier oil shares Shell gained 3p. Leading banks advanced with Lloyds quoted 5p higher at 260p ahead of final results tomorrow. Boots, Marks and Spencer and Great Universal rose by up to 6p.

The London stock exchange restored the listing of M. Ferguson shares and they were quoted at 62 1/2 against 62 which they traded before suspension.

Price of gold closed in London Thursday at \$179.35/ounce

Table 1

Loans Extended by the Arab Fund during 1977

Country	Date	Project	Total Amount KD Million US \$ Million
Arab Republic of Yemen	16/3	Electric Power II	9.0 31.2
Morocco	3/4	Agricultural Credit	9.0 31.4
Tunisia	3/4	Development Line of Credit	7.0 24.4
Somalia	14/4	Bargaisa - Bordma Road	2.5 8.7
Somalia	14/4	Goulen - Gelib Road	5.5 19.2
Arab Republic of Yemen	14/4	San'a Water Supply	5.0 17.4
Lebanon	16/6	Electricity Network	6.0 20.9
Lebanon	16/6	Beirut Port	5.0 17.4
Egypt	14/11	Suez Canal Development	12.0 41.8
Morocco	14/11	Oujda Cement	9.0 31.4
Algeria	14/11	Jijel Port	12.0 41.8
Jordan	26/12	Electric Power Development II	5.9 20.6
Bahrain	26/12	Rifaa Power Station	5.0 17.4
Syria	26/12	Baniyas Power Station	6.0 20.9
Sudan	26/12	Railroads	5.0 17.4
Total			103.9 361.9

Table 2

Distribution of Loans by Country

Country	No. of Loans	Total Amount of Loan million \$	Arab Fund Contribution %	Project Cost million \$	Arab Fund Share %
Arab Republic of Yemen	2	48.6	13.4	93.7	52
Morocco	2	62.8	17.3	569.4	11
Tunisia	1	24.4	6.7	55.1	44
Somalia	2	27.9	7.7	74.9	37
Lebanon	2	38.3	10.6	83.5	46
Egypt	1	41.8	11.6	1146.5	4
Algeria	1	41.8	11.6	364.2	11
Jordan	1	20.6	5.7	86.1	24
Bahrain	1	17.4	4.8	209.2	8
Syria	1	20.9	5.8	179.2	12
Sudan	1	17.4	4.8	147.8	12
Total	15	361.9	100	3,009.6	12

Table 3

Distribution of Loans by Sector

Project	No. of Loans	Total Amount million \$	Arab Fund Contribution %
Electricity	5	111.0	30.7
Agriculture	1	31.4	8.7
Transportation			
Railroads	1	17.4	4.8
Roads	2	27.9	7.7
Water	1	17.4	4.8
Ports	2	59.2	16.3
Suez Canal	1	41.8	11.6
Cement	1	31.4	8.7
Various Development Programs	1	24.4	6.7
Total	15	361.9	100

Leon Spinks takes heavyweight boxing title from Ali in stunning points win

LAS VEGAS, Nevada, Feb. 16 (R). — Leon Spinks, 24, became the new heavyweight boxing champion of the world here last night with a stunning points victory over Muhammad Ali in only his eighth professional fight.

And after winning the bout on a split decision, Spinks proclaimed: "Ali is still the greatest, but I am the latest."

Few people gave Spinks even an outside chance of touring one of the biggest upsets in sporting history.

Nevada bookmakers thought so little of his talents they declined to quote odds or accept bets on the fight. Unofficially they made him a 10-1 underdog.

But Spinks, who spent the first 17 years of his life in a ghetto neighbourhood of St. Louis, proved them all wrong by winning the last three rounds of a bruising battle before a capacity crowd of 5,400 at the Hilton Hotel Sports Pavilion. Millions more saw the 15-round history-making bout on television in the United States and 30 other countries around the world.

Scoring under the world boxing council's ten-point-must system, judges Lou Tabat and Harold Buck both voted for Spinks. Tabat had it 145-140 in points and Harold Buck 144-141.

Judge Art Lurie, the only dissenter, had Ali the winner, 143-142.

The 36-year-old Ali, universally recognised as one of the greatest heavyweight champions of all time, had shown signs in recent title fights that the end of his fabulous reign might be near.

He beat Ken Norton on a controversial points decision

in September 1976, and last Sept. 29 in New York. Earnie Shavers almost toppled Ali from his champion's perch.

But when it finally happened last night many onlookers were incredulous.

How could Spinks, with only seven professional fights, find the ability and stamina to beat Ali, a legend in his own time?

But he did, taking the best punches Ali could throw and slamming back with more in return.

The aging champion had met his conqueror, a quick-fisted Spinks, who won the light-heavyweight title in the 1976 Montreal Olympics.

"I trained hard for the fight, and I was ready," Spinks said in a joint press conference afterward.

Then Ali, with swelling under both eyes, broke in to say:

"I tried to do the rope-a-dope and tried to tire him out. But he didn't get tired. He surprised me."

"Whoever he meets next, is in for a fight," the former champion said.

Spinks continued: "Tonight is my second dream come true. The first was winning the Montreal Olympics."

All offered no excuses.

"The man landed the punches when he was supposed to," the dethroned champion said.

"I wasn't robbed by the decision. He landed the good punches. You can't die because you lose. And I lost. I felt the age. I'm going to try to win the title back."

"He proved everybody wrong," a subdued Ali said. "He proved the press all wrong."

Ali, sucking thoughtfully on a cough drop, turned to the man who had just taken the

world's heavyweight boxing championship from him.

As Ali and the new champion entered the post-fight news conference, Spinks turned and began the applause for Ali.

"I had to train hard to beat a great man," said Spinks. "It feels good, very good."

Ali, speaking softly, said he was surprised by the ferocity of Spinks' attack.

"You know he surprised me, and I'm in there with him," said Ali, nodding to reporters. "You're sitting over

there drinking beer and you're shocked -- and I'm in there getting my butt kicked."

Ali said that if Spinks' next fight is against Ken Norton or any of the other top-ranked heavyweights, "if he fights them like he fought me, they're in trouble."

Ali said Spinks was one of the "most aggressive" fighters he had faced and "threw the best punches."

Asked if he felt he had won the fight, the ex-champ answered softly, "no, I don't know."

Before the fighters entered

the room, Bob Arum -- head of Top Rank Inc., promoter of the fight -- said he had a signed contract with Spinks for his first six title defenses.

He declined to say how much money was involved, saying only it was in a "very good neighbourhood... seven figures."

Arum said Ali wanted "to take off a few months," let Spinks have a few more fights, then possibly fight him again.

"If he beats me again, then I know it's time to hang it up," Arum said Ali told him.

U.N. proposal suggests staffing of Committee on Palestinian Rights be from countries backing its creation

UNITED NATIONS, Feb. 16 (R). — Chairman Medoune Fall of the United Nations Committee on Palestinian Rights proposed yesterday that Secretary-General Kurt Waldheim give preference in staffing a new U.N. unit on the Palestinians to countries which had supported the group's establishment.

Secretary-General sources said this was the first time any U.N. committee had sought to instruct the secretary-general on which nationals he should or should not appoint.

They said this discriminatory

move offended Secretariat members because it implied that every national necessarily supported the policies of his government.

Mr. Fall, Senegal's Chief Delegate, said his committee felt that it would be wrong to include nationals of countries which had voted in the General Assembly against the new group. The unit aims to promote Palestinian rights.

Dr. Waldheim, whose own country, Austria, voted against the enabling resolution, is usually given a free hand in naming Secretariat staff.

The countries which opposed the new unit were Austria, Belgium, Canada, Costa Rica, Denmark, Dominican Republic, West Germany, Guatemala, Holland, Honduras, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Luxembourg, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, United Kingdom and United States.

Mr. Fall said that the new unit would disseminate information on the rights of the Palestinians and should be staffed by people familiar with the Palestinian problem, including those from the Arab states confronting Israel.

Long live the Champ...

By Will Grimsley

LAS VEGAS, Nevada, Feb. 16. (AP). — There are times when one realises that he is sitting on a transcendent moment in history -- even if it be something as inconsequential as sport.

There sat the man the world for 14 years had hailed as "the Champ." It was almost as though there would never be another. Muhammad Ali seemed blessed with some magical power. No one's ebony jewel was destined to shine forever.

Ali himself must have thought so. So did his legion of fanatic followers.

Yet here he was slumped in a chair in the upstairs dressing room of the Hilton Pavilion, his lower lip pursed with blood, a nasty knot over his right eye, ugly bruises blanching what always called "the prettiest face that ever was."

At his feet sat his slim, beautiful wife, Veronica. She stroked his robed, tired muscles. She said nothing.

Bumdi Brown, a long time aide, cried unashamedly.

All of us knew it had to come sooner or later. More recently there had been tell-tale signs. But who dared believe the magnificent era would end with such suddenness?

Ali, the Champ, was a truly beaten man. This time it was no silly regulatory body that stripped him of his championship. It was a tough, 24-year-old ex-marine, Leon Spinks, only seven pro fights under his belt, less than two years out of amateur ranks.

Even as the savagely-fought 15-round battle neared its close, the rafters of the glided on no arena rocked with familiar shouts.

"All, Ali, Ali!"

The fight was close. The kid was tough. But everybody at ringside knew that, as he had done so many times in the past, the great Muhammad would call upon some invisible reserve of strength and rescue the decision in the final round.

Ali recognised the possible consequences. His 36-year-old legs tingled, his body surrendered to aches and pains, he plunged headlong into the fight -- jabbing, lashing out with his lightning right hand, hanging on.

This time, as so many others had done, his young adversary didn't fold. Instead, Spinks shed back, giving two punches for every one he absorbed, backed Ali into his own corner as almost finished him before the final bell.

Indisputably, it was Spinks' fight. Boxing had a new heavyweight champion.

In the fourth row, Kay Spinks raised a red-covered bible and said, "Hallelujah, God praised."

There was a sadness about the scene -- and a beauty.

"Surprised you, didn't he?" Ali needed the few reporters who crashed his dressing room. "Surprised me, too. I underestimated his will to win and his stamina."

"I thought I could tire him out in the early rounds and then beat him. My plan didn't work. Next time I'll be in better shape. I'll stay in the corners and I'll come out fast in the first round like I did in the 15th."

Next time, Ali? Will there be a next time?

"I will be back," the deposed champion promised. "I will be the first heavyweight champion to win the title three times."

The boast seemed to float away with the smell of ammonia.

The old order passeth, making way for the new.

Muhammad Ali has given us many memorable moments and unending entertainment, only with his remarkable boxing skills but also with his fourth-grade poetry, boyish charm and ability to mesmerise peasants and potentates alike.

Spinks, a bearded youth with two big gaps in front of his mouth where teeth used to be, bull stubborn and bulldog tough, is the new champion.

He took the fight to the champion, a great but aging champion, and made the king eat lead.

Long live the new king.

Sadat would celebrate peace with 3-religion building on Mt. Sinai

MUNICH, West Germany, Feb. 16 (R). — Egyptian President Anwar Sadat was quoted yesterday as saying he would like to celebrate a peace treaty with Israel by erecting a combined church, mosque and synagogue on the summit of Mount Sinai.

The 2,646-metre (8681-ft) high mountain, where the Bible says that God spoke to Moses, would revert to Egypt if Israel withdrew from the Sinai Peninsula, which its army captured in 1967. In an interview published today by the West German magazine Quick, President Sadat said that if peace were achieved: "I would like to build on Mount Sinai, where God spoke to Moses, a kind of church which would also be a mosque and synagogue. Three religions under one roof -- and only separated by interior walls."

Such a building would show that Christians, Jews and Moslems could live together, the Egyptian president said.

Haldeman's new book points the finger at Nixon

WASHINGTON, Feb. 16 (AP). H.R. Haldeman, Richard Nixon's closest aide during the White House years, says in his new book that his theory of the Watergate break-in is that the former president "himself caused those burglars to break into" the Democratic Party's offices, the Washington Post reports.

The post told in its Thursday editions that the former White House chief of staff wrote that he also is convinced that Mr. Nixon personally tried to erase incriminating portions of his secret tape recordings.

One of the White House tapes which was subpoenaed during the Watergate investigation continued an 181-minute gap, which became a major issue during the trials, and congressional hearings surrounding the break-in.

Mr. Haldeman's book, scheduled for publication Feb. 27, represents the first substantial inside account from a member of Mr. Nixon's closest White House circle of the events which led to the first presidential resignation in American history.

The Post said it based its report on the latter two-thirds of Mr. Haldeman's forthcoming book, *The Ends of Power*, which the newspaper sa-

id was made available to it. The newspaper did not elaborate on how it obtained the book.

Mr. Haldeman also alleges that Mr. Nixon was involved in the cover-up from "day one" and that he was told by Mr. Nixon three days after the June 17 break-in that they would be raising money for the men arrested at the Watergate Office and apartment complex, the Post said.

Mr. Haldeman says tape recordings were installed around the White House because of "Mr. Nixon's concern over the unpredictable Henry Kissinger," the newspaper said.

It quotes him as writing that Mr. Nixon was aware that Mr. Kissinger kept a log of conversations and wanted a record of his own.

Mr. Haldeman, 51, who was convicted in 1975 of Watergate-related offenses and is currently in prison, consigned the role of the Watergate "heavy" to Charles W. Colson, who he describes as "the iron-man bully," the Post said.

Mr. Haldeman was sentenced to 2 1/2 to 8 years U.S. District Judge John Sirica, who presided over the Watergate trials, reduced his sentence last year to 1 to 4 years and Mr. Haldeman will be eligible for parole next June 21.

Editor's note: Following is the reprint of a news story which appeared in the Feb. 12, 1978 issue of The Sunday Times dealing with Israel's new policy of allowing Red Cross delegates access to Arab prisoners in interrogation centres under certain conditions. This is followed by a report on human rights by the U.S. State Department, appearing in the same issue, which concerns Israel's treatment of Arabs in the occupied territories. The first half of the report examines whether Israel exercises "respect for the integrity of the person." The second examines the Israeli government's attitude and record on the investigation of alleged human rights violations.

New policy on prisoner visitation

In a radical change of policy, the Israeli government has agreed to allow Swiss Red Cross delegates to visit Arab prisoners held for interrogation. This concession—sought by the Red Cross for 10 years—follows last year's Insight report on Israel's treatment of Arab prisoners. It concluded that Arab prisoners from the West Bank and Gaza were ill-treated—and in some cases tortured—while being questioned by Israeli security and intelligence officers.

Israel vehemently denied the charges but agreed to receive a top-level delegation from the International Red Cross. The delegation, led by Richard Pestalozzi, Special Assistant to the Red Cross president, spent 10 days in Israel last November, and met Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan, Defence Minister Ezer Weizman, Police Minister Yosef Burg, Justice Minister Shmuel Tamir, and the Commander of the Occupied Territories, General Avraham Ori.

Editorial comment
page 2

Israel proposed new procedures to give Red Cross delegates far easier access to prisoners.

1. Israel promised to notify the Red Cross of an arrest within 14 days—instead of 18.

2. Much more important, Red Cross delegates can now visit a prisoner even if he is still under interrogation. Previously they had to wait

until interrogation was over—often a matter of weeks, sometimes of months.

According to the Red Cross, the main purpose of a delegate's first visit under the new procedure is to "enquire into the detainee's health condition." If necessary the delegate can call for a medical examination. Since December a Red Cross doctor, Biersen de Hahn, has been stationed in Israel.

While delighted at the new agreement, Red Cross delegates have found it has brought one practical problem. The first visit to a prisoner must now take place without witnesses. This means that Israeli liaison officers or prison guards can no longer attend—but neither can the Arab interpreters delegates used to rely on. The Red Cross men are now taking crash courses in Arabic.

Israel's "dilemma" on Arab rights

Israel's treatment of Arabs living in the occupied territories—the subject of a controversial Insight report in The Sunday Times last June—is identified as "a dilemma" by the U.S. State Department in a report on human rights last week.

The report, covering 105 countries that receive American aid, praises civil rights in Israel itself as comparable to those of the Western democracies. But it cites Israel because, it says, "under the military regime that governs the occupied territories certain of the normal human rights guarantees that are taken for granted in Israel proper have been superseded on security grounds. This dichotomy poses a final peace settlement with a dilemma that will probably be resolved only in the context of a final peace settlement with their neighbours."

Israel on Friday denied several specific allegations in the report, in particular that it had violated the Geneva convention by deportations. Those expelled, it said, were sent to Jordan where they were citizens.

Begin affirmed humane policy

On Israel the report examines whether the state exercises "respect for the integrity of the person" under five separate headings:

1. TORTURE: Allegations about the use of torture by Israeli officials during interrogation of Arab security suspects have been raised frequently. The most widely publicised allegations of this kind were contained in a lengthy report in the June 19, 1977 issue of The Sunday Times of London, which charged that there was a widespread pattern of officially condoned use of torture during interrogations in the occupied territories. This led to a lengthy series of rebuttals and counter-rebuttals, both from official Israeli sources and in the press.

The government of Israel denied The Sunday Times story, pointing out that use of torture is both contrary to official policy and prohibited by law. It also narrowed the scope of its allegations. To reinforce this policy, we understand from press reports that at Prime Minister Begin, shortly after returning from the United States in July, 1977, reaffirmed existing instructions concerning humane treatment of prisoners.

To deter further allegations of mistreatment, Israel recently agreed to allow representatives of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) resident in Israel to visit detainees during the period of their interrogation, beginning on the fourteenth day after arrest. Previously, ICRC representatives have been allowed access to prisoners only after a longer period of time.

We know of no evidence to support the allegations that Israel follows a consistent practice or policy of using torture during interrogations. However, there are documented reports of the use of extreme physical and psychological pressures during interroga-

tion, and instances of brutality by individual interrogators cannot be ruled out.

2. Cruel, inhumane or degrading treatment or punishment

There have been instances in which Israeli troops, usually inexperienced recruits, used excessive force in quelling demonstrations and restoring order. These actions did not reflect government policy. The Israeli government is investigating reports of the recent beating of two Arab students by military authorities, allegedly for having participated in anti-Israeli demonstrations at Birzeit University.

In several instances individuals found guilty of such excesses have been disciplined and, in at least one case, sent to jail. Steps have also been taken to provide riot-control training and equipment to special units in an attempt to avoid repetition of such occurrences.

Families have been displaced

In contravention of the fourth Geneva convention, occupation authorities have selectively expelled residents of the West Bank and Gaza suspected to having or known to have engaged in terrorism or anti-Israeli political agitation, although this practice has declined greatly in recent years. Other individuals convicted of or suspected of terrorism have had their homes demolished or sealed up and their families displaced, thereby inflicting a type of collective punishment.

Overcrowding in prisons where security offenders are held, especially at Ashkelon, led to a series of hunger strikes by prisoners in early 1977. The ICRC, which does not normally speak out publicly, issued a statement noting that, while there had been some improvements, some of its recommendations to the Israeli authorities for improvements in medical services, cultural facilities and family contacts had not yet been implemented. There have been no recent ICRC statements on this subject.

3. Arbitrary arrest of imprisonment

As of July, 1977, there were about 3,000 non-Israeli-citizen Arabs under arrest or in prison in Israel proper, most of whom were residents of the occupied territories. It is estimated that 75 per cent of these were being held for security offences, and of that

number, about 20 are under administrative detention. The remainder of the alleged security offenders have either been tried and convicted by military courts, are awaiting trial, or are being held temporarily for investigation.

Administrative detention is provided for under both Israeli law and the Jordanian and British mandatory codes that were in force before 1967 in the West Bank and Gaza respectively, and which continue in force there. Under the fourth Geneva convention, this practice is not permissible beyond one year from the "general close of military operations."

Israel maintains that administrative detention is necessary in the limited number of cases in which presentation of evidence in a court proceeding would compromise sensitive security information. Such information often includes the nature of the security offence of which the detainee is suspected. Military commanders are authorised to order the administrative detention without trial of any person on security grounds for up to six months. Such detention can be administratively extended indefinitely.

Administrative detainees have rights of appeal from detention orders. In practice, these rights are rarely exercised and appeals have very rarely resulted in a reversal of the decision of the military authorities.

4. Denial of fair public trial

As required by the Geneva convention, Jordanian law (with a few Israeli modifications) is still in force in the West Bank in civil and criminal matters. Its adjudication has been left in the hands of the indigenous judiciary, which carries out its duties in an equitable manner. Residents of the occupied territories accused of non-security offences receive fair public trials by local civilian courts. Alleged security offenders are, with the few exceptions cited in the above section, tried in Israeli military courts by military judges trained in law, these proceedings, although not always open to the public, are generally in accord with the standards of fair trials.

5. Invasion of the home

Under standing emergency regulations, military authorities may enter private homes and institutions in pursuit of security objectives as they see fit. This has occurred frequently, sometimes resulting in damage to property and injury to inhabitants.

No replies to Amnesty calls

A separate section on Israel and the occupied territories examines the Israeli government's attitude and record on the investigation of alleged violations of human rights. "The ICRC regularly inspects prison conditions in the occupied territories and has made recommendations for improvements."

In 1970, the Israeli government authorised Amnesty International to conduct an investigation into reports of treatment of prisoners and detainees. Amnesty issued a report which described accounts of several cases of mistreatment it had received. Its commendation of a formal inquiry with international participation was rejected by Israel.

In October, 1976, Amnesty renewed its request for investigation. Since then, it has expressed its concern about the imprisonment or treatment of a number of individual prisoners, Israeli Jews as well as Arab, in several letters to Israel's attorney general. According to an Amnesty release in the summer of 1977, none of these letters had received a reply.

For several years, the U.N. Human Rights Commission and other U.N. bodies have adopted resolutions condemning alleged Israeli human rights violations in the occupied territories. The United States has voted against most of these resolutions, which it regards as one-sided, politically motivated, and based on unsubstantiated allegations. Israel has been generally unresponsive to efforts by U.N. bodies to conduct investigations in territories under its jurisdiction, although it has made efforts to be forthcoming regarding visits by representatives of WHO, ILO and UNESCO.

In 1976, Israel admitted informal experts' group to WHO to conduct an investigation of health conditions in the occupied territories. The group produced a report that reflected favourably on Israel's administration, the report was rejected by the assembly on political grounds without reference to the contents of the report.

Because of this and of such incidents, Israel has been disposed to respond invariably to requests for international investigations. On other hand its decision to permit ICRC access to prisoners during the interrogation process is indicative of a willingness to cooperate with international bodies it regards as "possible."

مكتبة الأمل